

## COMMANDER'S SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY



Any attack on the dignity of another Marine will not be tolerated in this command. Sexual assault is a crime. It is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender or spousal relationship or age of victim.

**"Consent" shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, threat of force, coercion, or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious.**

Sexual assault diminishes the reputation and prestige of the Marine Corps. It destroys trust and erodes unit cohesion. Sexual assault violates our core values, and causes both short-term and long-term trauma for victims. Failure to report sexual assault incidents may further damage victims and the reputation of our Corps.

Reporting a sexual assault may be done via the following reports:

- **Restricted report** allows a victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotional/psychological counseling support services without notification of law enforcement or the command. A restricted report can be made to a **Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Healthcare Provider (HCP), or Military OneSource 124/7 (800-342-9647)**. In a restricted report, the victim's identity remains confidential, and it is not forwarded to law enforcement or command authorities.
- **Unrestricted report** also allows a victim to receive medical, informational, advocacy, and emotional/psychological counseling support services, and it causes an official investigation to ensue. An unrestricted report can be made to law enforcement authorities or the command, as well as to a UVA, SARC, HCP, Chaplain, or Military OneSource. Although the victim's identity will not remain confidential, care will be given to ensure that it is released only to those with a need to know (i.e. unit commander and investigating authorities).

All Marines and Sailors who become aware of a sexual assault are required to report the incident to PMO or the chain of command. If you learn that a sexual assault incident occurred but was not reported, or that an assault is being planned, notify your chain of command.

As Marines, we respect each other's dignity and treat each other with respect. We are a squadron that knows the right path to take, whether in the workcenter or off-duty. Any attack or assault of a sexual nature will be investigated as a criminal act.

  
J. B. WELLONS